Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Cancel Claims 1-5

Claim 6 (previously cancelled)

Cancel Claim 7

8. (original) A method of selectively connecting one of plurality of input receiving wires and one of a plurality of output transmitting wires to one of a plurality of selectable connectors in a signal routing circuit, the method comprising:

retrieving data representing a number of non-selectable input connectors and non-selectable output connectors and selectable input/output connectors from the circuit;

receiving data through an interface from a user representing a number of desired input connectors each to be connected to an input receiving wire;

comparing said number of desired input connectors to the sum of said non-selectable input connectors and a plurality of selectable input/output connectors;

repeating said receiving and comparing until the sum of said non-selectable input connectors and the plurality of selectable input/output connectors equals or exceeds the number of desired input connectors;

calculating the number of available output connectors by adding the number of non-selectable input connectors, non-selectable output connectors, and selectable input/output connectors together and subtracting the number of desired input connectors therefrom;

displaying the number of available output connectors and desired input connectors using a display mechanism;

repeatedly connecting a selectable input/output connector to an input receiving wire until the sum of said non-selectable input connectors and the selectable input/output connectors connected to an input receiving wire equals the number of said desired input connectors;

repeatedly connecting all selectable input/output connector not so connected to an input receiving wire to an output transmitting wire.

- 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said circuit received and transmits video signals.
- 10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said circuit receives and transmits audio signals.
- 11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said circuit received and transmits data signals.
 - 12 (Previously cancelled)
- 13. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said circuit has output pins that may be connected to more than one connector.

Cancel Claim 14

15. (previously cancelled)

Add Claims 16-21

--16. Apparatus for routing signals, comprising

a cross point matrix for routing signals having a plurality of inputs and at least one first output and at least one other output, the cross-point matrix providing a unidirectional routing path between at least one input to at least one output;

a plurality of non-switchable input-only ports each receiving a respective input signal for transmission to a corresponding one of a first subset of cross point matrix inputs;

at least one non-switchable output only port for receiving an output signal from the first cross point matrix output;

at least one bidirectional port capable receiving an input signal or transmitting an output signal; and

at least one switching means switching the at least one bidirectional port between a respective one of a second sub-set of cross point matrix inputs and the at least one other cross point matrix output.

- 17. The apparatus according to claim 16 wherein the cross-point matrix has multiple other outputs; and further comprising:
- a plurality of bidirectional ports, each capable receiving an input signal or transmitting an output signal; and
- a plurality of switching means, each switching a respective one of said plurality of bidirectional ports between a respective one of a second sub-set of cross point matrix inputs and a respective one of the plurality of other cross point matrix outputs.
- 18. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said cross-point matrix, said input-only ports, said at least one output-only port, said at least one bi-directional port and said at least one switching means are housed in a single frame.
 - 19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said cross-point matrix routes video signals.
 - 20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said cross-point matrix routes audio signals.
- 21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said cross-point matrix routes video and audio signals.--